THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The National Capital Region Planning Board Act, 1985 has enabled creation of the NCR Planning Board to prepare, coordinate and monitor implementation of Regional(s) Plan for the NCR. The Board has undertaken various planning exercises and has played an important role in bringing about harmonious development of the Region. The Regional Plan of the National Capital Region deals with various aspects like transport, power, water, sewerage, solid waste management, institutional mechanism to control and monitor criminal activities, police modernization in NCR etc.

(c) NCR towns are fairly well connected by transport through road and rail network Presently, five National Highways radiate from Delhi *viz.* NH-1, NH-2, NH-8, NH-10 and NH-24. Apart from these five, other National Highways also strengthen the road network of NCR *viz.* NH-91, NH-58, NH-71, NH-71A and NH-71B. Two peripheral Expressways around Delhi are under implementation. The State Highways are also spread all over NCR *viz.* SH-10 (Gohana-Jind), SH-11 (Muzaffarnagar-Panipat-Jind), SH-13 (Alwar-Jaipur), SH-14 (Alwar-Mathura), SH-16 (Rohtak-Bhiwadi), SH-18 (Bulandshahar-Moradabad), SH-20 (Jhajjar-Charkhi Dadri), SH-22 (Jhajjar-Mahendragarh), SH-24 (Rewari-Mahendragarh), SH-25 (Alwar-Narnaul), SH-39 (Anupshahar-Aligarh), SH-47 (Meerut-Bijnor), SH-57 (Baghpat-Shamli). In addition to the above, the NCR is well knitted with District Roads. It has also been decided to extend Delhi Metro Rail to other towns, namely, Noida and Gurgaon.

Use of glass in buildings

758. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state.

(a) whether necessary precautions have been taken by Government to ensure human safety in the wake of spectacular increase in use of glass in buildings all over the country specially in shopping malls, commercial centres, district centres, airports, hotels, hostels, etc. and increased number of human injuries;

(b) the action Government proposes to take in this regard;

(c) whether any guidelines are available to be referred or followed by major construction agencies like CPWD, etc. to ensure human safety by using appropriate type of glass at critical locations in the buildings; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) to (d) National Building Code 2005 formulated by Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), lays down a set of minimum provisions designed to protect the safety of the public with regard to structural sufficiency, fire safety and health aspects of buildings. With regard to use of glass in buildings, BIS has brought out two standards for traditional building construction namely (i) Code of Practice for Glazing in Buildings (IS 3548:1988) and (ii) Code of Practice for Patent Glazing (IS 10439:1983) but these do not specifically cover safety issues.

Bureau of Indian Standards, Chemical Department has published IS 2553 (Part 1): 1990 'Safety glass - Specification: Part 1 Architectural building and railway uses (Third Revision), which prescribes requirements for dimension and thickness of toughened and laminated safety glass. Fragmentation test, wrap, resistance to shock test, light stability test, boil test, fracture and adhesion test are also prescribed in this standard.

The standards/codes prescribed by Bureau of Indian Standards are not mandatory in nature. Provisions/specifications for use of the materials in construction of buildings, as prescribed by BIS, can be adopted by the Urban Local Bodies of State Governments, by amending their Building Bylaws.

So far as CPWD is concerned, all precautions are being taken to ensure human safety in the wake of use of glass in the office buildings/quarters, as per CPWD's Specifications and Norms by using specified thickness of the glass. Provision of structural glazing in buildings has been incorporated in CPWD plinth area rates. Structural glazing is provided only after proper design of frame work.

Infrastructure development in Bangalore

759. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Karnataka has recently in a memorandum requested the Central Government to provide special package for providing infrastructure to Bangalore city under various schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. State Government of Karnataka has recently in a memorandum requested the Central Government to provide special package of Rs.8500 crore for tackling the infrastructure needs of Bangalore. The remaining Rs. 8500 crore would be mobilized by the State Government. The indicative allocation made by Planning Commission for the State of Karnataka for the period 2005-2012 is Rs. 1374.59 crore. Additional Central Assistance (ACA) to the extent of Rs. 1267.26 crore has been committed by the Government of India as on 30.9.2008. This Ministry has taken up with the Planning Commission for increasing the overall allocation under JNNURM. Further, the Government of India has undertaken credit rating of cities to facilitate the cities to access funds from the market and augment their financial resources.

Substandard work by CPWD

760. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that written complaints are not being properly maintained in CPWD enquiries and more particularly at "GI" Block Sarojini Nagar;

(b) if so, action taken against responsible officers;

(c) whether a number of complaints have been received in this enquiry regarding execution of work by contractors using highly substandard material;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the number of cases in which CPWD engineers of this enquiry have investigated the matter on the spot;

(f) if so, whether any case of execution of work using substandard material has come to light; and